

1. Characterizing an optical system;
2. interferometrically characterizing an optical system;
3. determining the position of best focus;
4. detecting spherical aberrations by detecting height profiles; and
5. detecting reticle placement.

The Examiner indicated that currently no claim is generic.

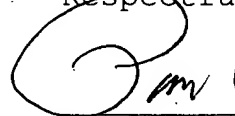
Applicant elects species 1, characterizing an optical system. It is believed that claims 1-9, 11-18, 21-22, and 27 read on the elected species 1.

The Examiner's restriction requirement is respectfully traversed. The Examiner's restriction requirement is somewhat unclear because the Examiner did not group any claims.

Additionally, the Examiner has not established a serious burden if restriction is not required. The species are related. It is unlikely that any additional search would pose a substantial burden.

Therefore, it is requested that the Examiner reconsider the present application, withdraw or clarify the restriction requirement, and indicate allowable subject matter.

Respectfully submitted,



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